

SENATE BILL 599

By Woodson

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,
Chapter 4, Part 9, relative to postsecondary
financial assistance from net lottery proceeds.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-911(a), is amended by deleting the subsection in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(a) To continue to receive a Tennessee HOPE scholarship, a student at an eligible postsecondary institution shall continue to meet all applicable requirements for the scholarship and shall reapply for the scholarship upon attempting twenty-four (24) semester hours. At the end of the semester in which the student has attempted a total of twenty-four (24) semester hours, the student shall have achieved a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.75 to continue to receive the Tennessee HOPE scholarship. Eligibility shall also be reviewed at the end of every semester in which the student has attempted an additional twenty-four (24) semester hours since the last review. At the end of any such semester, the student shall reapply for the scholarship and shall achieve a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 to continue to receive the scholarship for the following academic year.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-911, is amended by deleting the subsection (b) in its entirety.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-911(c), is amended by deleting the first sentence of the subsection in its entirety and by substituting instead the following sentence:

A student receiving a Tennessee HOPE scholarship, who ceases to be academically eligible for the scholarship because the student fails to achieve the

cumulative grade point average required at the end of the semester at which eligibility is reviewed, may regain the HOPE scholarship, if the student continues to meet all applicable nonacademic requirements for the scholarship, attends an eligible postsecondary institution without the HOPE scholarship, achieves a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 at the end of any semester in which eligibility would have been reviewed under this section had the student not lost the scholarship, and reapplies for the scholarship.

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-913(a), is amended by deleting subdivision (2) in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(2) The student has attempted at any postsecondary institution a total of one hundred twenty (120) semester hours funded by a Tennessee HOPE scholarship;

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-913(b), is amended by deleting subdivision (2) in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(2) The student has attempted at any postsecondary institution a total of one hundred thirty-six (136) semester hours funded by a Tennessee HOPE scholarship;

SECTION 6. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-920(e)(2), is amended by deleting the first sentence of the subdivision in its entirety and by substituting instead the following sentence:

If a student receiving a Tennessee HOPE access grant does not achieve a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.75 at the end of the semester in which the student has attempted twenty-four (24) semester hours, but the student, without financial assistance from lottery proceeds, continues to attend an eligible postsecondary institution and achieves a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 at the end of a semester in which eligibility would have been reviewed had the student qualified for the

scholarship, then the student shall be eligible for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship, if the student meets all other applicable requirements.

SECTION 7. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-920(f), is amended by deleting subdivision (2) in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(2) The student has attempted at any postsecondary institution a total of one hundred twenty (120) semester hours funded by a Tennessee HOPE access grant or a Tennessee HOPE scholarship, or if the student is enrolled in an undergraduate degree program required to be more than one hundred twenty (120) semester hours in length, one hundred thirty-six (136) semester hours funded by a Tennessee HOPE access grant or a Tennessee HOPE scholarship; or

SECTION 8. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-931, is amended by deleting the second sentence of subsection (c) and by substituting instead the following sentence:

A HOPE scholarship awarded under this section shall be subject to the provisions of § 49-4-913, except that the limitation on the number of semester hours attempted which shall be funded by a Tennessee HOPE scholarship for nontraditional students shall be ninety-six (96) semester hours; unless the student is in an undergraduate degree program required to be more than one hundred twenty (120) semester hours in length, in which case the number of semester hours attempted that shall be funded by a Tennessee HOPE scholarship for nontraditional students shall be one hundred twelve (112) semester hours.

SECTION 9. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007, the public welfare requiring it.